

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4293

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 SINAI 1732

FOR S/S-EX AND SSM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: A. STATE 188986 B. STATE 188775 (NOTAL)

1. THANK YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE TRIPARTITE MEETINGS AT THE SINAI FIELD MISSION. IN THE ABSENCE OF A FIRM DECISION AS TO WHETHER THE AMERICAN DELEGATION WOULD REMAIN AT SFM FOR THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF THE CONFERENCE AND WITHOUT KNOWING REQUIREMENTS OF THE ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN DELEGATIONS IT IS DIFFICULT TO REACT TO THE SPECIFIC REQUIRMENTS. WITH THIS IN MIND WE WILL ATTEMPT TO DESCRIBE OUR CAPABILITY OF SUPPORTING PROPOSED CONFERECE. AS POINTED OUT SFM HAS EXCELLENT THOUGH UNPRETENTIOUS FACILITIES. THE STAFF OF 161 AMERICANS IS ALMOST TOTALLY SELF-CONTAINED. STAFF MEMBERS LIVE IN TWO TO FOUR-MAN MODULES, AND TO ACCOMMODATE A CONFERENCE OF THIS SIZE HOUSING, I.E. BEDS, WILL BE THE MAJOR LIMITING FACTOR. IN THIS REGARD WE MUST EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLDING THE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO ABSOLUTE MINIMUM ESSENTIAL TO SUPPORT THE SECRETARY AND THE

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CONFERENCE. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT ANY SUPPORT STAFF WHICH CAN REMAIN IN CAIRO OR JERUSALEM SHOULD DO SO.

2. OFFICE SPACE

A) THERE ARE TWO SMALL OFFICE BUILDINGS AT SFM, ONE FOR GOVERNMENT AND ONE FOR CONTRACTOR OPERATIONS. THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING HAS SIX OFFICE ROOMS AVAILABLE. THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE WOULD MEET

THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SECRETARY, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S OFFICE COULD SERVE AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT'S OFFICE. SECRETARIAL SPACE IS MINIMAL AND NO MORE THAN A MAXIMUM OF TWO COULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN THIS SUITE. THERE ARE TWO LARGER ROOMS APPROXIMATELY 12 X 25 FEET WHICH COULD SERVE ADEQUATELY FOR THE SECRETARIAT STAFF S/S AND FOR THE SENIOR STAFF OFFICE. A SUITABLE OFFICE COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IN THE SFM OPERATIONS CENTER (SAME BUILDING) FOR SECRETARIAT EXECUTIVE OFFICE. IN SUM WE CAN MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFICE SPACE SET FORTH IN REFTTEL BUT WE MUST EMPHASIZE THAT THE OFFICES ARE COMPACT. THEY ARE CONSTRCTED AROUND THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE AREA, AND THE NECESSITY FOR CONTROLLING NOISE AND TRAFFIC, ETC., WILL BE IMPORTANT.

B) THE SECOND OFFICE BUILDING LOCATED JUST 30 FEET FROM THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING IS ALSO AVAILABLE. THERE ARE THREE OFFICES PLUS A SMALL SECRETARIAL OFFICE AND TWO LARGER ROOMS APPROXIMATELY 12 X 30 FT IN THIS BUILDING. THIS SPACE COULD BE USED BY AMERICAN SUPPORT STAFF AND THEREBY REDUCE THE NOISE AND TRAFFIC PROBLEM DESCRIBED IN (A) ABOVE. AT SAME TIME THIS BUILDING IS THE ONLY OTHER OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF THE ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN DELEGATIONS. AT THIS STAGE WE WOULD PROPOSE HOLDING THIS BUILDING FOR THAT PURPOSE.

3. CONFERENCE SPACE

A) THERE IS ONE CONFERENCE ROOM 16 X 25 FEET IN EACH OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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TWO OFFICE BUILDINGS. WE WOULD PROPOSE THAT THE CONFERENCE BE HELD IN THE USG CONFERENCE ROOM. THE WALLS ARE PANELLED, IT HAS WALL-TO-WALL CARPETING AND WE CAN CONSTRUCT LOCALLY A TABLE SUITABLE FOR 12 TO 14 PARTICIPANTS. IF THIS ROOM IS UTILIZED THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS NOT SEATED AT THE TABLE COULD NOT EXCEED 10 TO 15.

B) THERE IS A SIMILAR CONFERENCE ROOM OF SAME SIZE LOCATED IN THE CONTRACTOR'S OFFICE BUILDING. WE WOULD PROPOSE THAT THIS ROOM BE HELD AVAILABLE ON RESERVATION BASIS FOR USE BY INDIVIDUAL DELEGATIONS, ETC. IF IT IS NOT NEEDED AS A CONFERENCE ROOM, IT WOULD MAKE AN EXCELLENT LARGE WORK ROOM.

C) THE ONLY OTHER LARGE CONFERENCE TYPE ROOM AVAILABLE IS THE THEATER WHICH IS 35 X 43 FEET LOCATED IN THE COMMUNITY BUILDING. THE COMMUNITY BUILDING CONTAINS THE CAFETERIA, THE PX, GAME ROOM, BAR, ETC. THE ACOUSTICS ARE BAD IN THIS ROOM, AND IT IS NOT SATISFACTORY AS A CONFERENCE SITE. IT COULD HOWEVER BE UTILIZED AS A PRESS CENTER OR AS EXTRA COMMUNAL WORKING SPACE AS REQUIRED. IT SEATS 150 PERSONS AS A THEATER.

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4. HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS

WE ARE NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR ON REQUIREMENT FOR HOUSING. STATE'S 188986, PARA 3, SUGGESTS THAT THE ENTIRE AMERICAN DELEGATION MIGHT STAY AT SFM. YOU ESTIMATE 15 SINGLES AND 15 DOUBLE ROOMS FOR PRINCIPALS PLUS 35 OTHERS. AS SSM HAS INFORMED YOU OUR HOUSING CONSISTS OF MOTEL-TYPE MODULAR UNITS. WE CAN MOVE STAFF FROM THE TWO-MAN UNITS INTO 4-6 UNITS AND PROVIDE CONTIGUOUS ACCOMMODATIONS FOR 35-40 VISITORS BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY. IF THE REQUIREMENT EXCEEDS THIS NUMBER IT WILL MEAN A FOLDING COT OPERATION AND CO-MINGLING VISITORS WITH SFM STAFF MEMBERS. IN MY OPINION THIS WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE. THEREFORE

A) WE WOULD PROPOSE MAKE THE DIRECTOR'S SUITE AVAILABLE TO SECRETARY. IT CONSISTS OF A SMALL LIVING ROOM, BEDROOM, BATH AND PULLMAN KITCHEN. IT IS ADEQUATE BUT COOKING FACILITY IN THE APARTMENT IS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT.

B) WE CAN MAKE AVAILABLE 17 OR 18 TWO-BEDROOM, MODULES WHICH SHOULD BE USED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY BASIS. THESE ROOMS ARE CO-LOCATED WITH THE SECRETARY'S SUITE. ANY
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SINGLE OCCUPANCY WOULD REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VISITORS IN THESE UNITS ACCORDINGLY.

C) WE PLAN RELOCATE THE SFM STAFF FROM THE UNITS DES-

CRIBED IN (B) ABOVE INTO 4-6 MAN MODULES UTILIZING FOLDING COTS. IN ADDITION WE ANTICIPATE HOUSING TDY STAFF IN THESE MODULES. OUR ABILITY TO ACCOMMODATE OTHERS WILL BE ALMOST NIL, AND ANYONE SO ACCOMMODATED WILL BE INTERMIXED WITH SFM STAFF MEMBERS.

D) WE HAVE ASSUMED THAT THE ACCOMMODATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE ARE FOR AMERICAN VISITORS. IF EGYPTIAN OR ISRAELI VISITORS ARE TO BE ACCOMMODATED IT WOULD REDUCE THE ROOMS AVAILABLE FOR AMERICANS. WE EMPHASIZE THAT EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI VISITORS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO STAY AT THEIR RESPECTIVE SURVEILLANCE SITES E-1/J-1. THIS IS ALMOST ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR SUPPORT STAFF.

5. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES.

WE HAVE AT SFM TWO NEW SAVIN 770 COPIERS, IN GOOD CONDITION, ONE XEROX 660 I COPIER IN FAIR CONDITION, ONE NASHUA COPY-GRAPH 220 IN FAIR CONDITION, AND ONE CANON NP50 COPIER IN FAIR CONDITION. INsofar AS PICA SELECTRIC CORRECTING TYPEWRITERS, WE CANNOT PROVIDE THESE MACHINES AND THEY SHOULD BE BROUGHT WITH THE PARTY. WE MAY REQUIRE SOME ADDITIONAL DESKS OR WORKING TABLES, AND WE WILL NEED ADDITIONAL TYPEWRITERS AND STANDS WHICH HOPEFULLY CAN BE BORROWED FROM A NEARBY POST. IN GENERAL WE THINK WE CAN MEET THE MINIMUM EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY PROBLEMS, HOWEVER THE AMOUNT REQUESTED IN REFTEL AND THE CONFIGURATION OF THE OFFICES WILL HAVE TO BE ADJUSTED TO AVAILABLE SPACE. THE ROOMS DESCRIBED SIMPLY ARE NOT LARGE ENOUGH FOR SUCH THINGS AS 4 OR 5 DESKS, 4 OR 5 TYPEWRITERS, ETC.

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6. GROUND TRANSPORTATION

WE HAVE TWO CHEVROLET SEDANS, TWO SMALL STATION WAGONS, NINE CHEVROLET BLAZERS AND FIVE CHEVROLET SUBURBANS, PLUS A TWENTY-PASSENGER BUS. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THESE VEHICLES WILL BE AVAILABLE, AND THERE WILL BE ADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION TO MOVE THE VARIOUS PARTIES FROM THEIR LANDING SITE TO SFM. WE CANNOT PROVIDE SPECIAL VEHICLES FOR S/S, THE PRESS SPOKESMAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, ETC., BUT GIVEN THE RELATIVE ISOLATION OF SFM WE WOULD THINK THAT TRANSPORTATION COULD BE LIMITED TO MOVEMENT BETWEEN THE AIRPORT AND SFM. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE WE HAVE AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF TRUCKS FOR BAGGAGE, ETC..

7. CAFETERIA. WE HAVE A RELATIVELY LARGE WELL-STOCKED, WELL-STAFFED CAFETERIA. AS POINTED OUT WE ARE NOT CAPABLE OF PROVIDING KOSHER FOOD BUT WE CAN ADJUST MENUS TO MEET OBVIOUS DIETARY RESTRICTIONS. PROVIDING

FOOD FOR THE NUMBER OF VISITORS YOU ENVISION WILL NOT BE A PROBLEM. IN ADDITION TO THE CENTRAL DINING ROOM WE HAVE AN ADEQUATE SMALL DINING ROOM EQUIPPED WITH THREE ROUND TABLES WHICH WILL SEAT EIGHT PERSONS EACH FOR A TOTAL OF TWENTY-FOUR. THIS ROOM WILL BE SATISFACTORY FOR THE SECRETARY AND PRINCIPALS, BUT SEATING IS LIMITED TO 24. IN ADDITION WE DO NOT HAVE TRAINED WAITORS. WE WOULD PROPOSE THAT ALL VISITORS PASS THROUGH THE CAFETERIA LINE AND LET OUR STAFF ASSIST IN THE DINING ROOM TO SERVE COFFEE, CLEAR TABLES, ETC.. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT WE HAVE NO CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE FOOD OUTSIDE THE CAFETERIA AREA.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

SFM HAS A STANDARD RATTY COMMUNICATIONS ELEMENT. IT OPERATES 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK AND IS CAPABLE OF HANDLING THE SECRETARY'S TRAFFIC, THOUGH CONFIDENTIAL

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ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATORS WILL BE REQUIRED. IN ADDITION WE HAVE EXCELLENT NON-SECURE RADIO VOICE COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE EARLY WARNING AREA. SFM HAS ONE TELEPHONE LINE TO JERUSALEM AND ONE LINE TO TEL AVIV CONNECTED TO THE ISRAELI TELEPHONE NETWORK. TELEPHONE CALLS CAN BE MADE TO THE U.S., EUROPE, ETC. WE HAVE VERY LIMITED RADIO TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS TO CAIRO WHICH IS OF UNCERTAIN RELIABILITY. IN ADDITION WE HAVE NON-SECURE TELETYPE SUPPORTS TO MINISTRY OF WAR IN CAIRO, IDF IN JERUSALEM AND THE UN CHIEF COORDINATOR IN JERUSALEM.

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9. PERSONNEL

THE SFM STAFF HAS A FULL RANGE OF SKILLS AND ABILITIES BUT MOST OF THE CONTRACT PEOPLE ARE NOT SECURITY CLEARED. YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT ALL OF THE STAFF WOULD BE MOST ANXIOUS TO SUPPORT ANY CONFERENCE HELD HERE THOUGH WE WILL NEED ADDITIONAL TDY SUPPORT. WE ANTICIPATE NEEDING THE FOLLOWING TDY SUPPORT:

A) AN OC TECHNICIAN WITH RADIO AND TELEPHONE EXPERIENCE, TO ARRIVE PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE AND REMAIN DURING THE ENTIRE VISIT.

B) TWO TDY SECRETARIES TO ARRIVE A MINIMUM OF FOUR DAYS PRIOR TO THE VISIT.

C) I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A SECURITY OFFICER TO ARRIVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO COORDINATE THE VARIOUS SECURITY ASPECTS OF THE CONFERENCE. PRESUMABLY THE EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI DELEGATIONS WILL HAVE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS, AND AMERICAN SECURITY NEEDS WILL HAVE TO BE COORDINATED AS WILL NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE UN. WHETHER ADDITIONAL SECURITY WILL BE NEEDED AT THE WATCH STATION IS A DETERMINATION FOR SECURITY TO MAKE.

I PROPOSE THAT SPENCER BROWN NOW IN WASHINGTON BE ASSIGNED SINCE HE RECENTLY COMPLETED A TDY PERIOD AT SFM AND KNOWS THE SECURITY SITUATION WELL.

D) UNFORTUNATELY WE ARE SHORT STAFFED IN COMMUNICATIONS AND
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DEPENDING UPON WHETHER TWO CIRCUITS MUST BE MAINTAINED OR WHETHER ONE WILL SUFFICE, WE WILL NEED A MINIMUM OF TWO AND MAXIMUM OF THREE COMMUNICATORS (PREFERABLY RATTY TRAINED) TO ARRIVE THREE OR FOUR DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE VISIT.

10. IN GENERAL, WE HAVE TRIED SUMMARIZE FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT SFM ALLONG WITH AN INDICATION OF HOW WE CAN SUPPORT A TRIPARTITE MEETING IF SCHEDULED. WE BELIEVE THAT THE CONFERENCE CAN BE SUCCESSFULLY HELD AT SFM PROVIDING WE KEEP THE NUMBER OF OVERNIGHT VISITORS TO THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM AND PROVIDING THE PARTICIPANTS WILL ACCOMODATE THEIR REQUIREMENTS TO LIMITED OFFICE FACILITIES, CRAMPED HOUSING, ETC. WE HOPE THAT THIS MESSAGE WILL GIVE YOU SOME BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR SITUATION.
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